



King's Chapel

In 1688, the Royal Governor built King's Chapel on the town burying ground when no one in the city would sell him land to build a non-Puritan church. The first King's Chapel was a tiny church used by the King's men who occupied Boston to enforce British law. By 1749, the building was too small for the congregation, which had grown to include a number of prominent merchants and their families.

The congregation hired America's first architect, Peter Harrison, to design a church "that would be the equal of any in England." The new church was completed in 1754. Harrison's plans included a steeple, which has never been built, and a colonnade, which was not completed until after the Revolution. The magnificent interior is considered the finest example of Georgian church architecture in North America.

King's Chapel Burying Ground

Located next to King's Chapel on Tremont Street, King's Chapel Burying Ground was Boston Proper's only burying place for nearly 30 years.

The Burying Ground is the final resting place of some of Massachusetts Bay Colony's most prominent citizens — John Winthrop, the Colony's first governor; William Dawes, Jr., who rode with Paul Revere to Lexington and Concord; and Mary Chilton, the first woman to step off the Mayflower in Plymouth Colony.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements





Benjamin Franklin's Statue/Site of the First Public School

As you follow the Freedom Trail down School Street, you will notice a half-smiling, half-serious statue of Benjamin Franklin outside the Old City Hall. It is the first portrait statue erected in the United States. Franklin was born just one block away on Milk Street across from the Old South Meeting House. A plaque on the sidewalk marks the site of the first Public School. Puritan settlers established the Boston Latin School in 1635 in the home of Schoolmaster Philemon Pormont. It later moved a few blocks away to School Street. Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams and John Hancock once attended the school. The Boston Latin School no longer stands in its once downtown location, but is now located in Boston's Fenway neighborhood.